

## Historical Thinking Skills

### I. Chronological Reasoning

- *Historical Causation*: Identifying the short term and long term causes and effects.
- *Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time*: Recognizing how continuity and change may both be present in any era.
- *Periodization*: Evaluating various models of periodization and recognizing relevant turning points.

### II. Comparison and Contextualization

- *Comparison*: Understanding the similarities and differences between different accounts and periods.
- *Contextualization*: Understanding the larger context of a document or individual's actions.

### III. Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence

- *Historical Argumentation*: Assembling various explanations of an event and constructing interpretations of the event (especially as it applies to conflicting evidence).
- *Appropriate Use of Historical Evidence*: Extracting useful evidence from sources and evaluating the features of the evidence (including point of view, format, purpose, limitations, and context).

### IV. Historical Interpretation and Synthesis

- *Interpretation*: Analyzing diverse historical interpretations and understanding how historian's interpretations change over time.
- *Synthesis*: Creating an understanding of the past from a wide variety of evidence, while applying insights about the past to other contexts and circumstances.